



SPARKS

Tri-State Amateur Radio Society

EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

Volume XXXIX

No. II

FEBRUARY 1987



OFFICERS:

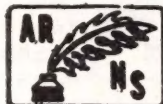
President John Lenn, WA9IVE
Vice Pres. Hal Wilson, WB9FNN
Secretary Robert Henn, KA9TML
Treasurer Charlie Sartore, N9DYE

DIRECTORS:

Cliff McGuyer, W9CM
Jim Shoptaugh, KA9KRE
George Utley, N9FMO
Charlie Finke, WB9NOD
John Small, W9FHA
Ralph Waldo, K9STX

SPARKS EDITOR:

Mike Anderson, KA9LQM
Day 424-2306
Night 476-5572
Pager 474-3809



from:

Mike Anderson
Post Office Box 3284
Evansville, IN 47732

TO:

0044
Fay Gehres
2232 East Powell
Evansville
47715

1986
W9AIN

IN

FIRST CLASS MAIL

NOVICE ENHANCEMENT - Effective Date Unofficial

Report No. DC-824 ACTION IN DOCKET CASE 1-30-1987

FCC EXPANDS PRIVILEGES FOR AMATEUR NOVICE OPERATORS (PR DOCKET 86-161)

The Commission has amended Part 97 of the rules to expand Novice class amateur radio operator privileges to include all emission modes for the 1.25 and 0.23 meter bands and emissions A1A, F1B, and J3E for the 10 meter HF subband.

This action was taken in order to attract more Novice operators to the Amateur service without diminishing their incentive to upgrade to higher class operator licenses. Because of the need to prevent interference, Novice operators were not previously authorized higher power.

The FCC recommended that current Novice operators, who were authorized the new privileges without additional qualification, become knowledgeable in the new requirements before using the new privileges.

Additionally, the Commission separated examination Element 3 into Elements 3(A) and 3(B). This will enable examinations for Technician and General operators to correspond more closely with the actual privileges.

Action by the Commission January 28, 1987, by Report and Order (FCC 87-36). Commissioners Fowler, Quello, Dawson, Patrick and Dennis.

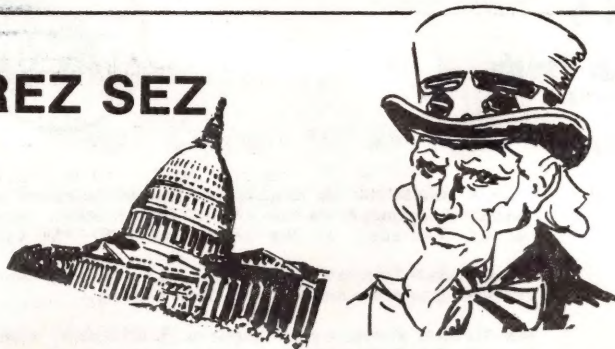
EDITOR'S NOTE

The above was listed as an UNOFFICIAL announcement of Commission action pending the text of a commission order constituting OFFICIAL action. As soon as the OFFICIAL text is released it will be announced on the Wednesday Night TARS Emergency Net on 147.15 at 8:00 PM.

SILENT KEY

J. Kenneth Young, W9JTU, of 3010 Hartmetz Avenue passed away January 9th. Ken, as he was known, was a longtime member of TARS until illness forced him to become inactive. His late wife, Martha, W9MTF, was instrumental in forming the ladies auxiliary of which she was the first president. They had two children, Patti, a commissioned officer with the US Navy, Charleston, S.C. and Don of Tallahassee, Florida. A card of thanks, acknowledging the expression of sympathy by the many local hams, was received from Pat and Don.

THE PREZ SEZ



The time is near for the annual Tri-State Amateur Radio Society BINGO Meeting. Co-Chairladies Delores, KA9KRD and Blanche, KA9EIV have promised a real fun time for all who participate. Hopefully, everyone will turn out and give these two great gals their support.

The Board of Directors met on January 15, taking up some of the more serious concerns of the membership. The results of their work and thinking will be presented to you in a near future meeting. All those involved are enthusiastic in the pursuit of solutions for the myriad problems we face.

The Chairman for this year's Hamfest has been appointed. Mike Anderson, KA9LQM is our main man. He will need much help in carrying out his many responsibilities and will be calling on the membership for that help. I urge everyone to really pitch in to make our Hamfest as successful as possible. This is the only means we have of gaining revenue other than dues. Our expenses this year will, in all probability, be quite high so we will need all the cash we can obtain in order for us to remain solvent.

At the present time we have a class for Novice hopefuls in progress downtown in the Court Building. There are three YL's and the OM's number ten. All of them are eager to join ranks with us in Amateur Radio. Mike, KA9LQM and Bob, KA9TML are handling the instruction chores with an assist from Ray, KJ4HP and me, WA9IVE%.

On Saturday January 24th, Seven of our members participated in the annual Order of the Arrow Communications event at Burdette Park. With a HUGE help from Dan, N9APA we were able to show and demonstrate HF Radio, 2M Radio, Packet on both HF and 2 Meters and RTTY for about 185 Young men and adults. Tests were administered to the boys and some of their adult advisors.

Assisting with this event were Brian Esche, WB9QVR, George Wimpelberg, KA9IKC, John Bennett, N4XI, Mike Anderson, KA9LQM, John Lenn, WA9IVE, Ray Browning, KJ4HP and Laura Browning, KB4QPS. The assistance afforded us by the above mentioned group is the kind of help needed to keep us a viable and progressive organization. Aside from having a great time with these fine young men, those participating in the event were awarded certificates of appreciation and a patch for their jackets by the Boy Scouts of America.

Other events are in the works and coming for our participation. Like the Boy Scouts we need to "BE PREPARED".

73s John

WANNA BUY A BRIDGE, MISTER?

\$50.00 to renew your ham ticket? A private company is sending official looking literature to amateurs offering assistance with their license renewal, and it is possible some amateurs may thank that the literature is from the FCC. The catch is that the fee the private company charges for this service is fifty bucks. Of course, the FCC does not charge a fee to renew an amateur license, and the renewal form 610 is available free from any FCC Field Office, ARRL Headquarters, or Local VEC Team upon receipt of an SASE. FCC or ARRL can also provide answers to any questions you may have about renewing your license, so save your money! Give Blanche, KA9EIV a call instead. If you still want to pay fifty bucks you can donate to the Editors Vacation Fund, boy would I like to find someone that easy I got a bridge to sell in Brooklyn.

\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is now accepting applications for its annual \$1,000 scholarships.

Licensed amateurs graduating from high school in 1987 are eligible. Please make this known to any amateurs in your area who may qualify.

For further information and application forms write:

DARA SCHOLARSHIPS
317 ERNST AVENUE
DAYTON, OHIO 45405

Changes Made to VEC Program

The Volunteer Examiner program has been in effect in Evansville since February 1985. During this period the VE's have conducted 7 sessions, serving 101 candidates. Of these there were 52 upgrades, the result of passing 1,2, or 3 elements.

The FCC has made some changes. A Certificate of Successful Completion (CSCE) can now be given a candidate who passes a written exam. Previously, this was only given for successful completion of a code exam. Now, if a candidate applying for an Extra Class license fails the 20 wpm code test but passes the written, he will be given a (CSCE) for the written element good for one year.

The test fee has been changed from \$4.25 to \$4.35. A new Form 610 will be placed in circulation later this year. Those active in the VE program are W9BC, W9CM, N9CUK, N9DEO, N9DYE, KA9EIV, W9FHA, WB9FNN, AK9G, W9GJ, WD9HUK, N4XI, DK9JB, WB9VSQ and AE9Z. Any licensed ham over 18 years of age and in good standing, who holds an Advanced or Extra Class license and would like to become a VE, please contact me for a VE application form.

The VE test sessions for 1987 will be May 17, Hamfest site --- August 22, IVTC --- November 21, IVTC

KA9EIV

PACKET

Continued from page 4

Packet recently demonstrated its emergency potential handling large volumes of H & W traffic following the train wreck near Washington, D.C. last month. The traffic was handled much faster by packet than it could have been by other means.

SECRETARY'S REPORT
No Secretary's Report
Was Received This Month.

Program for TARS Meeting

BINGO!

Annual BINGO Night is
February 12, 1987
7:30 PM at Red Cross

HAMFEST

Well the time is getting near again; you all know the time. It's when the fool who took Hamfest Chairman tried to rope you into working. Well this year to prove I am the fool I became an "Official Clown" by joining the Hadi Funsters and may show up in full costume and greasepaint. That would be different; but on a VERY SERIOUS SIDE.

The Annual Hamfest is the only fund raising project TARS has so when I call upon you say "YES".

The Major Prizes for the Hamfest have been ordered and will be announced very shortly and "YES; Virginia" we will be selling advance tickets for the Major Prizes. I am scaling back a little this year on the cost of prizes and since we have obtained the National Guard Armory at a rate much less than the sites used in years past we should show a increased profit this year.

Also TARS will be taking care of the Food again this year. Give me some input, do you want Sandwiches etc. or would you like to have a nice plate lunch available. It's up to you the hamfest visitors. We can have either or both if enough demand exists.

Some of the places help is needed include.

Kitchen Workers
Ticket Sellers
Security
Talk-In
Forum Help
BINGO

to name just a few.

Also we need a large turnout the Saturday Night before the Hamfest to set up the Tables.

If you are interested in helping give me a call.

73 KA9LQM

Treasurers Reports

TREASURER REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1986

Balance as of December 1, 1986		\$4063.91
Income		
ARRL Renewal.....	27.00	
Interest for December.....	16.17	
X-mas Party Reservations and left over Prize Money.....	256.00	
Total Income -----	\$299.17	\$4363.08
Expenses		
Door Prizes for Christmas Party	320.00	
Refreshments.....	39.14	
ARRL Renewal.....	25.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 384.14	\$3978.94
Balance as of December 31, 1985		\$3978.94

TREASURER REPORT FOR JANUARY 1986

Balance as of January 1, 1987		\$3978.94
Income		
ARRL Renewal.....	20.00	
Interest for January.....	17.91	
1986 Xmas Party Reservation.....	10.00	
TARS Dues & Repeater Dues.....	552.00	
Total Income -----	\$599.91	\$4578.85
Expenses		
Sparks	59.85	
Insurance.....	14.00	
ARRL Renewal.....	18.00	
Memorial	25.00	
Bingo Prizes	100.00	
Deposit for 1987 X-mas Party...	150.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 366.85	\$4212.00
Balance as of January 25, 1987		\$4212.00

 * * * * *
 * Renew Your Membership *
 * * * * *
 * Club Dues\$ 8.00 *
 * Repeater Dues .. 12.00 *
 * * * * *
 * Total \$20.00 *
 * * * * *
 * Senior Citizens *
 * (over 65) \$ 8.00 *
 * Students club dues *
 * only \$ 4.00 *
 * * * * *

 * Make Check Payable to TARS *
 * and Mail to the Treasurer *
 * * * * *
 * Charlie Sartore, N9DYE *
 * 709 East Virginia Street *
 * * * * *
 * Evansville, IN 47711 *
 * * * * *
 * You can also renew your *
 * ARRL membership thru *
 * TARS. We get to keep *
 * \$2.00 for our clubs *
 * Treasury. Ask Charlie if *
 * interested. *
 * * * * *

ARRL REQUESTS STA,s FOR HF PACKET

Loads of ARRL Field appointees have been putting packet radio to excellent use in scores of areas. This exciting mode has put new backbone into public service including NTS and ARES. packet has been a hot topic in the halls of the FCC, ARRL Board of Directors, right down to the Local BBS operators. In Evansville we are very lucky to have two Packet Bulletin Board Systems. Both N4XI and KA9LQM are interconnected both to each other for autoforwarding but also into the HF side at N4XI and the Local Area Network (LAN on 145.05) at KA9LQM. The FCC has invited the ARRL to request Special Temporary Authority (STA) to demonstrate the feasibility of operation under automatic control at below 50 MHz. The ARRL will seek STAs for a number of special experimental stations for evaluation of the feasibility of an HF network employing automatic control and forwarding of packet traffic.

The present autoforwarding network is under automatic control on the VHF side of the boards; however the HF forwarding can only occur when the control operator is at his station. This method works but requires large amounts of time from the local SYSOP maintaining the boards. It is not known if any Indiana Stations will be in the first group of STA's; however several have applied for the privilege of being in the experimental group.

Continued on page 3



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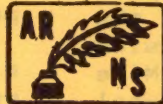
from:

Mike Anderson
Post Office Box 3284
Evansville, IN 47732

TO:

SPARKS EDITOR:

Mike Anderson, KA9LQM
Day 424-2306
Night 476-5572
Pager 474-3809



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Silent Keys in Tri-State Area

Sincere condolences to KB4QPS, Laura and KJ44HP, Ray on the death of Laura's Mother, Bonnie Paker of Henderson, Kentucky.

Morris, "Chuck" Johnson, K9PAR, 66 of 300 Richardt Avenue died March 20th after suffering a massive heart attack at his home. Chuck and his wife of 40 years spent an enjoyable day together working around the house and yard and after the evening meal he lay down to rest and suffered the fatal attack. Chuck, a member of Hadi Shrine, made numerous trips driving to Cincinnati and St. Louis Shrine Hospitals with children. He was scheduled to make one early the next morning. A Mead Johnson retiree, he was a long time member of TARS and could be heard on the 9-4 Group and Wednesday evening TARS nets.

Lester Lucas, K9CEG, Vincennes and formerly of Evansville passed away in Florida on March 12th. Les was an active member of the Indiana traffic nets.

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY MAY 14, 1987 Special Program from Indiana Bell Telephone

Indiana Bell / Ameritech will have a special program showing the specialized communications network which will be installed for the upcoming Pan Am games in Indianapolis, it will feature cellular phones and other state of the art communications developments including commercial packet transmission facilities for handling the large volumes of both local and international traffic for the games.
HAL SAY'S....DO NOT MISS THIS INTERESTING PROGRAM

T.A.R.S. regular monthly meetings are held at the corner of Diamond and Heidelberg Avenues at the American Red Cross building. Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM Evansville time.

The Officers & Directors meetings are held on the third Thursday at 7:00 PM Evansville time at the American Red Cross building.

The Tri-State Emergency Net meets each Wednesday evening at 8:00 PM Evansville time on the W9OG Repeater 147.75/15 Everyone is Welcome to join this net.

HAMFEST

This years HAMFEST will have several interesting forums which include, Packet Radio, NTS, and a new one for Evansville computer forum discussing the merits of IBM vs Clones so come to the hamfest and hear the merits of both sides of this current topic of discussion among the users of the now Industry Standard IBM PC and the many clones which have developed since it's rapid take over of the computer marketplace. Decide which is best for your application.

As usual BINGO for the ladies at 1:00 PM with KA9KRD taking care of that for the ladies. If you can help is needed from 6:00 AM until approximately 8:00 AM helping get some of the dealers set up...
SEE YOU THERE...KA9LQM

THE PREZ SEZ

It has been a busy time since this column last appeared. Further work on the new repeater has taken place. The old repeater is now down with the new repeater being assembled and being readied for the new site. It should be in operation at the new location when this issue is printed (Still at a temporary antenna).

Our earthquake drill was held on Saturday the 28th and from our standpoint was a terrific success. Blanche, KA9EIV, handled HF between Evansville and other points, with John N4XI taking care of the packet chores. George Utey N9FMO and I worked in the two headquarters rooms at the armory on 2 meters. MVP for this exercise must be given to Blanche for her efforts in keeping both radios going for almost 8 hours. A big vote of thanks is owed for her efforts and professionalism. WE can operate when the time comes and I pray it never does.

Our novice class downtown is over with a 130% pass rate. We tested a few novices who were not part of the official class. Also one then went to a VE test session and upgraded to technician and another to general. Mike Anderson, KA9LQM will be starting a Technician / General class downtown on April 8th, if you know of anyone wanting to study for upgrades send them down. They will not miss much the first class session is not very busy anyway. Many of the new novices will be in the new class.

an April 6th will be the starting date for a novice class at Castle High School.. Flyers have been distributed and we expect a good turnout of students.

The Hamfest is near at hand with Mike working hard to get things underway. He will need much help in making this one of our most successful events. Since we are going to have our own food service, he will be needing kitchen help. He will also need your response as to what foods YOU WANT. Much more help will be required; he will have ticket to sell, tables to be put up and many other chores to be done. Call him at 476-5572 and volunteer your services.

I guess the weather service must know that K8GIK is coming to town. Just looked outside and my yard is covered with snow.

73 John

ARES REPORT

The tornado drill on March 10th had a good response from Amateur Radio operators of the Tri-State area. N9EGI issued the alert from the National Weather Service office and amateurs using AC, DC and Mobile power with generator power available at 3 stations, there were 56 check-ins on the two 2 meter nets. K9STX AND N9FMO did an exceptional job as net control operators. WA9IVE checked in on 3.910 MHz for both drills from

the Indiana State Police Post. KA9KRE and KA9PCT were at the Civil Defense at the Civic Center Complex and WA9HGA and KA9EIV operated from the American Red Cross. A total of seven messages were handled, serving Salvation Army, Red Cross, Civil Defense, SEC, DEC, and 4th District.

Many thanks to all who participated.

KA9EIV, AEC Vanderburgh Co.

Board Meeting March 19th.

The board met at 7:00 PM March 19, 1987 at the ARC Headquarters, Present were WA9IVE, WB9FNN, N9DYE, N9FMO, and W9CM.

A new repeater progress report stated that the new controller and transmitter are in with the new receiver to be in shortly. Work on the new site is in progress. Erection of the tower will be immediately following getting all legality taken care of. The site must be rezoned with a special use permit being applied for.

Hal Wilson discussed a link between the 220 repeater being put up by the Ham Station with our new repeater to facilitate in utilizing the work of the new novice class operators in public service communications.

The next novice class at Castle High School was discussed. A motion was made by Mac and seconded by George that expenses incurred be paid by TARS. The motion was passed.

A working agreement with EMS was discussed, It was decided that we get the proposal in writing before further action.

The earthquake drill was brought up and we had four workers to be directly involved.

John WA9IVE



C. Sartore
428-0275
Pd up to 1989



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EVANSVILLE, INDIANA



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PAN AM GAMES HELP NEEDED!

The Pan Am officials for the 1987 events to be held in Indianapolis and the Brown County area have officially requested INCERT assistance. This is a very important request with the integrity of everyone involved on the line while working this prestigious event. One can only imagine the consequences should our government allow something to happen to athletes from the Far East or Cuba, for example. The date of immediate concern is August 9, 1987 when over one hundred (100) INCERT personnel will be needed for twelve (12) hour shifts at the Brown County State Park. Heavy emphasis on August 9 will be for amateur radio personnel. Other INCERT personnel will be needed also. Due to some deadlines that we have to meet, please discuss this at your next meeting and with your families and advise our contact person as to your availability on this date.

THE DEADLINE FOR REQUESTING TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS EVENT IS MARCH 30, 1987. All future correspondence from INCERT will be directed to each individual. Everyone must have their INCERT identification card and we encourage people to wear their organization uniform or carry identification showing which organization they are with. It would also be helpful if people wore INCERT shoulder patches on their clothing if possible.

We have always assumed that we could count on you — Now, we are asking for your help.

Don Jackson
INCERT COORDINATOR
Areas III & IV

To sign up contact: John Lenn, WA9IVE
We can also obtain INCERT patches for \$1.25 each.

CONGRATULATIONS

You may be seeing new faces at the next TARS meeting, NEW NOVICES from the current class include, Billy Orr, James Fisher, Mark Simpson, Bernard (Lou) Dick, Gary Burdette, Dean Wathen, Micky Jewel, and Shelley Wortman. These guys and gals have worked hard to pass their tests before the end of the scheduled classes in order to be one step ahead of the game when Novice Enhancement becomes effective this month.

Lets all give them a big welcome when you see them at a future club meeting. We will be needing some "Elmers" to help our new novices get on the air and get their feet wet.

Any volunteers out there give me a call at 476-5572 and I will try and match you with one of our new novices needing help. Remember how you had the shakes and could not think the first time you got on the air. Relive the enjoyment of your first contact by helping one of the new comers into our wonderful hobby.

73 KA9LQM

1987 HAMFEST

Sunday May 17



6:30 A.M. CDT til? ¹⁹⁸⁷

A FAMILY AFFAIR

PLAN NOW!

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY — EVANSVILLE, IND

Rotherwood Avenue Between Walnut and Division Streets

Talk-IN 147.75/15 and 146.19/79 T.A.R.S. Repeaters

GRAND PRIZES

COM MICRO 2-AT 2 Meter Handheld

YAESU FT-23R 2 Meter Handheld

VHS Video Recorder

BUTTERNUT HF-6V Vertical Antenna

You Need Not be Present to Win
Attendance Prize Tickets available at the Door

MAJOR PRIZE TICKETS \$1.00 Each or 6 for \$5.00 for \$5.00
MAJOR PRIZE DRAWING AT 3:00 PM CDT

TVRO & PACKET FORUMS

ARRL/VEC TESTING

HIGH TECH DISPLAYS

DEALERS

INSIDE FLEA MARKET

FREE BINGO FOR THE LADIES

INSIDE DEALER TABLES

1 to 4 tables are \$7.50 each

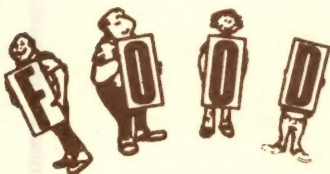
5 or more tables are \$5.00 each

Dealers may request electric outlets if available

Inside Flea Market

(Tables Furnished)

\$5.00 each table



ADVANCE RESERVATIONS WELCOME

CW CONTEST

HOURLY PRIZES

Admission Adults \$2.50 / Students \$1.00

Children under 12 FREE

There will be no admission to the hamfest without a valid 1987 Admission Ticket. Dealers and Flea Market must have a valid Admission Ticket.

Mail Advance Reservations to:

Mike Anderson, KA9LQM

Phone (812) 476-5572

Post Office Box 3284

Evansville, IN 47732

YES, TARS, I'd like advance reservations for your hamfest.

I would like ☐ Dealer ☐ Flea Market Tables

_____ Tables at \$ _____ each.

_____ Adult Admission Tickets at \$2.50 each

_____ Student Admission Tickets at \$1.00 each

Amount of Remittance enclosed \$ _____

Name _____ Call _____

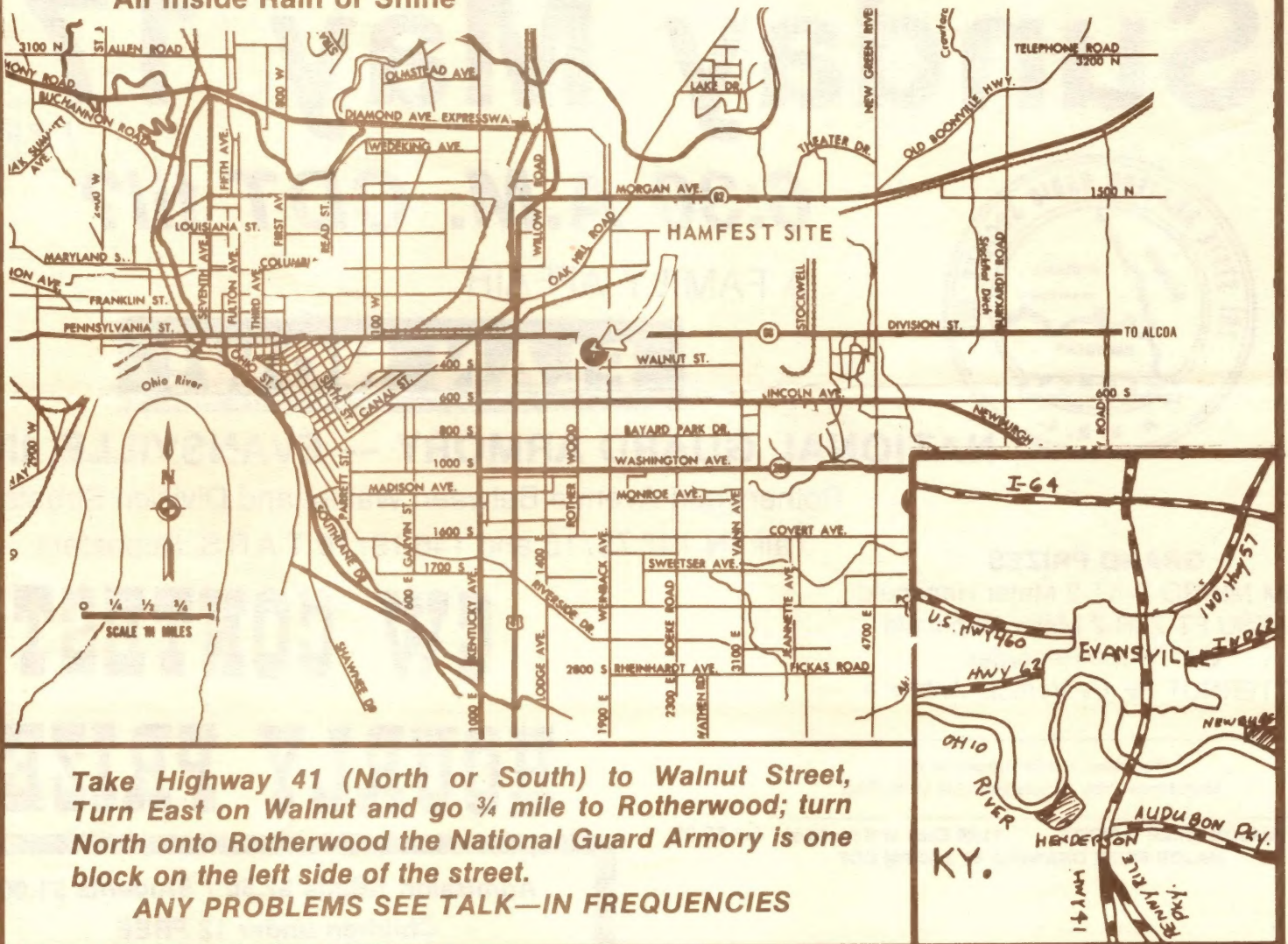
Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: Area () _____

GATES OPEN AT 6:00 AM
MAY 17th., 1987 - Sunday
8 miles south of I-64
All Inside Rain or Shine

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH AVAILABLE



**Take Highway 41 (North or South) to Walnut Street,
 Turn East on Walnut and go $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to Rotherwood; turn
 North onto Rotherwood the National Guard Armory is one
 block on the left side of the street.**

ANY PROBLEMS SEE TALK—IN FREQUENCIES

1987 HAMFEST - Sunday May 17

Tri-State Amateur Radio Society

Post Office Box 3284

Evansville, IN 47732



THE PREZ SEZ



Robins have landed in the Lenn Holly tree, Spring is just around the corner, and we have four new Novices in a single week. I have had a meeting with a school official in Warrick County during this past week and hope to meet with those of the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation soon. The subject of these meetings was, and will be, student and adult education in Amateur Radio. Prospect for a class, or classes, at Castle High School appear to be excellent at this time. It is proposed that Novice classes be held during one semester with Tech/General classes being held in the other semester. These are growth development for now, and more importantly, the long run.

Our immediate concern is that of the Hamfest coming up in May. Chairman Mike, KA9LQM is getting geared up for the big event and will be calling on many in the membership for their help. We will be serving food there and will need kitchen help, tickets will be on sale, help will be needed for the talk-in and much more. Mike is hard at work trying to make this one the most successful hamfest ever. If you know a merchant who would allow us to display a poster, contact Mike or Me so one can be provided.

Our readiness will be tested many times in the next several months. With Spring comes the unstable weather conditions and the emergency weather nets. It is hopeful that all local hams will get on the air along with our colleagues in the surrounding areas in the event of emergencies.

We will be participating in the Freedom Festival events in July with the Pan Am Games coming in August. See separate article to find out how you can help the Pan Am Games as an INCERT Volunteer. It appears that the next several months will be filled with exciting activities for everyone we can muster.

ARE YOU READY?

De John, WA9IVE

SECRETARY'S REPORT

No Secretary's Report

Was Received This Month.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

de "Little Quiet Mike"

FCC MAKES HAM RADIO MORE ACCESSIBLE AND FUN, GRANTS NEW PRIVILEGES TO NOVICE OPERATORS.

This was the headline of a recent FCC news release on the Novice Enhancement.

Interest generated by this increase in novice privileges will eventually lead to the enhancement of our Local Radio Amateurs' ability to provide swift and effective emergency and public service communications.

Novice operators can now join other hams in using radio to link personal computers, in order to access one another's information data bases and to exchange and relay messages either directly or via bulletin boards -- things that other computer buffs must do by telephone line and modem. There are two bulletin boards in Evansville which have autoforwarding capabilities nationwide. Novices also will be able to use voice for reliable local communications.

There are 1.5 million radio amateurs worldwide, including 420,000 in this country, who are enjoying these new opportunities. We're delighted with the FCC's decision, because it means anyone who might be interested can join in after just a few months of study. These enhancements to Novice privileges will increase our ability to serve the public and will bring the fun and personal satisfaction of amateur radio to more people than ever, of all ages."

For Your Information

I think all our membership is aware of the many problems that have plagued us and the 147.15/75 repeater and the autopatch. At the outset of 1987 these problems and concerns became my first priority. At the January Board meeting, the problems were faced and assignments made to study the problems and strive for solutions.

Present at the February Board meeting were board members: John Small, W9FHA; Charlie Finke, WB9NQD; Ralph Waldo, K9STX; and George Utley, N9FMO. Also present were your club officers: Pres. John Lenn, WA9IVE, VP Hal Wilson, WB9FNN; Sec. Bob Henn, KA9TML; Treas. Charlie Sartore, N9DYE and Brian Esche, WB9QVR.

After the meeting was called to order, a lengthy discussion was carried on. The wishes of the membership, as gleaned from the sheets handed out at the club meeting, and from comments made at various times to those of us in attendance were discussed. From the responses to our queries as to the wants of our membership, we learned that "Bells & Whistles" were not wanted (except the one that was individually desirable by the respondent). Finally the maintenance costs of the present equipment was brought before the board. Approximately \$420.00 per year was considered a bit too much.

I was asked for my recommendation by George Utley. My recommendation was as follows:

We purchase:

1. SCT 110 Transmitter
2. SCR 200 A Receiver
3. RC 85 Repeater Controller

Mr. Utley moved that the recommendation be voted upon. The recommendation was amended to also include seeking a different repeater site. George amended the motion and it was seconded by Charlie Sartore. The vote on the motion was unanimous and the equipment was ordered. Pending acquisition of a new location for the equipment, we should have our new repeater in operation before May 1, 1987.

A presentation will be made in our next meeting on March 14, 1987, to bring everyone up to date on the new repeater and its capabilities.

Other business discussed included the present status of the Autopatch, the technical level of some QST Articles, and the Hamfest. It pleases me to report that the autopatch will be back in operation before you read this report.

de John WA9IVE

HAMFEST

Well the time is getting near again; you all know the time. It's when the fool who took Hamfest Chairman tried to rope you into working. Well this year to prove I am the fool I became an "Official Clown" by joining the Hadi Funsters and may show up in full costume and greasepaint. That would be different; but on a VERY SERIOUS SIDE.

The Annual Hamfest is the only fund raising project TARS has so when I call upon you say "YES".

The Major Prizes for the Hamfest have been ordered and will be announced very shortly and "YES; Virginia" we will be selling advance tickets for the Major Prizes. I am scaling back a little this year on the cost of prizes and since we have obtained the National Guard Armory at a rate much less than the sites used in years past we should show a increased profit this year.

Also TARS will be taking care of the Food again this year. Give me some input, do you want Sandwiches etc. or would you like to have a nice plate lunch available. It's up to you the hamfest visitors. We can have either or both if enough demand exists.

Some of the places help is needed include.

Kitchen Workers
Ticket Sellers
Security
Talk-In
Forum Help
BINGO

to name just a few.

Also we need a large turnout the Saturday Night before the Hamfest to set up the Tables.

If you are interested in helping give me a call.

73 KA9LQM

